IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. 10/699,314 Confirmation No. 3935

Inventor(s): Bruce HORTON, et al. | Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

SETTLING TRANSACTIONS

Filed: October 31, 2003 ON AN ERODING BASIS

TC/A.U. 3693

Examiner: Paul W. SHUMATE

Docket No. NYMX0001

Customer No. 25235

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the first Office Action mailed December 21, 2007 in the above case, please consider the remarks which follow.

Amendments to the **Claims** begin on page 2 hereof.

Remarks begin on page 5 hereof.